

As an association executive serving professional members for over 20 years, I urge the FCC to exempt nonprofit associations from the recent fax regulations. Removing the "established business relationship" qualification from the fax regulations is absolutely bad for business, forcing associations and other companies to obtain the written consent of their own members, clients and industry partners before transmitting any fax that could be interpreted as commercial in nature. The association community has already raised numerous concerns about the new regulations that remain a subject of speculation, including exactly which transmissions the FCC would interpret as commercial in nature, for example, whether written consent to a national association would extend to chapter or affiliate faxes, and whether a written consent form would expire with membership. My current members have their own concerns as well, since frequent communication of important association information with them by fax and e-mail has become their preferred method of hearing from us.